

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LAGOS 09691 231552Z

43

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /067 W

----- 092398

R 231524Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6459

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 9691

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINS, PINT, NI

SUBJECT: FMG MOVES AHEAD ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM AND
CONSTITUTION

REF: (A) LAGOS A-98, (B) LAGOS A-70

1. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM. FMG ANNOUNCED TO GENERAL PUBLIC
AUG. 19 NEW GUIDELINES AND TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTING
LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM PROGRAM. IN ANNOUNCEMENT SPEECH, CHIEF
OF STAFF, SUPREME HEADQUARTERS, BRIGADIER YAR'ADUA SAID LOCAL
GOVERNMENT COUNCILS WILL BE INAUGURATED THROUGHOUT THE NATION
IN JANUARY 1977. HE SET FORTH SCHEDULE FOR SECRET BALLOT
ELECTIONS IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER FOR NON-APPOINTIVE COUNCIL
POSITIONS. NEW PROGRAM CONTAINS SEVERAL REVISIONS FROM NON-
PUBLIC WHITE PAPER (REF A) FMG TRIED OUT LAST MONTH ON
TRADITIONAL RULERS INDICATING SOME COMPROMISES HAVE BEEN MADE.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LAGOS 09691 231552Z

ALTHOUT THER STILL ARE POSSIBLE PITFALLS AHEAD, APPEARS THERE IS

SUFFICIENT AGREEMENT ON MECHANICS FOR YAR'ADUA TO ASSERT,
AS HE DID IN HIS SPEECH, THAT FMG WILL NOT TOLERATE ANY ATTEMPT
TO FRUSTRATE REFORMS. FULLER ANALYSIS FOLLOWS BY AIRGRAM.

2. CONSTITUTION DRAFTING EXERCISE. CONSTITUTION DRAFTING
COMMITTEE CONCLUDED ITS DELIBERATIONS AUG. 20, BY AGREEING
TO FINAL FORM OF A DRAFT CONSTITUTION AND APPROVING A GENERAL
REPORT WHICH WILL ACCOMPANY DRAFT TO FMG. COMMITTEE IS
SCHEDULED TO REASSEMBLE SEPT. 14 FOR FORMAL PRESENTATION OF
DRAFT CONSTITUTION AND
GENERAL REPORT TO HEAD-OF-STATE OBASANJO.

3. COMMENT. FMG APPEARS TO BE WELL ON SCHEDULE IN CARRYING
OUT AT LEAST INITIAL PARTS OF FIVE-STAGE POLITICAL PROGRAM,
ANNOUNCED BY THEN HEAD -OF-STATE MUHAMMED LAST OCTOBER, FOR
RETURNING NIGERIA TO CIVILIAN RULE BY OCTOBER 1979.
EASUM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REFORM, CONSTITUTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LAGOS09691
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760321-0838
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760829/aaaaazbp.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 LAGOS A-98, 76 LAGOS A-70
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <08 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FMG MOVES AHEAD ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM AND CONSTITUTION
TAGS: PGOV, PINS, PINT, NI
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006